

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

NEWSLETTER, SPRING 2018

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Chair's Letter

Dear Political Science Majors, Minors, Alumni, and Friends,

2018 promises to be an important and interesting year in politics. In the US, Congressional and state elections will go a long way to shaping national policy and politics for the next decade. Abroad, democratic nations face authoritarian challenges and the rise of ethnic nationalism. The international system continues to face challenges in securing peace and protecting human rights. Here at Siena, we'll strive to engage with these critically important issues as we continue to provide students with a liberal arts "education for a lifetime."

To that end, we're offering a range of exciting courses and programs this semester. Capstone students are engaging with Migration Politics. A new "Citizen Advocacy & Lobbying" class will be directly lobbying seven bills in the New York State Legislature. Dr. Park is leading a class on the EU on a trip across Europe. We are also happy to hosting a wide program of guest speakers, including lectures on Youth Political Participation in the EU, Putin in the Era of Trump, and Peace Economies in Transition. Students trips are heading to Washington, DC and to the Council for Foreign Relations in New York City.

This newsletter includes Fall 2018 course descriptions, news from our affiliated clubs, student experiences, faculty news, and updates from our alumni. We invite you to take some time to review this important material, whether you're preparing for Fall 2018 registration or just checking in to see what's happening in the Department. Of course, please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, concerns, or ideas you may have.

Cheers,
Dr. Daniel Lewis

Club Updates

Political Science Society

Hello everyone! The Political Science Society is underway planning our Washington D.C. Trip in April! As always, we have weekly meetings, poli-chats, and Town Hall debates on Wednesdays at 9 pm. Please watch out for BINGO nights, Movie nights, and possibly a Laser Tag event with the partisan clubs on campus! Free food and prizes will be provided. Watch out for a “Reverse Racism” forum on February 28th and a collaboration with the Black and Latino Student Union during Hip Hop Week (more to come on both of those events). As the semester winds down, the Political Science Society Executive Board will be up for election. If you have any interest in running for a position on the E-board for Poli Sci please email me at ko8maso@siena.edu and I can give you the election timeline. All positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, P.R. Coordinator, and Events Coordinator) are going to be available! Have a great semester and I will leave you with these wide words from former President John F. Kennedy: “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.”

Moot Court/Mock Trial

My name is Gabby Agostino, and I am Captain of Siena’s Mock Trial Team. The team competed at Regionals in New Haven, Connecticut on February 17th and 18th. The team brought home four wins for Siena College! This is a huge improvement from last year, and we look forward to continuing our progress. Below is a picture of this year’s team at regionals. The team is holding an informational session, either at the end of March or beginning of April, to start the recruitment process for next year. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about our team and what we do, please reach to me at gmi4agos@siena.edu. We look forward to meeting new potential members and expanding our team for the upcoming school year!



Pre-Law Society

The Pre-Law Society is off to a quick start this spring semester as they hosted their first event of the season on Wednesday, January 24. The first event was an LSAT Focus Approach Boot Camp where pre-law students had the chance to engage and learn from professors and legal professionals while learning about the Focus Approach to the LSAT.

The Pre-Law Society will be keeping busy this semester as they host events such as:

- LSAT Classes taught by Keith Hirokawa from Albany Law (2/1 and 3/22 in Siena Hall 123 from 6-8pm)
- Amendment and Issue Discussions (TBD)
- Biomedical Health and Law Advocacy Event (TBD)
- Women's Panel on Law and Government (3/19 in The Norm at Lonnstrom, beginning at 6pm)
- The Pre-Law Mentor Event (4/11 in the Maloney Great Room, Sarazen Student Union)
- Site visit to the NYS Court of Appeals (TBD)

If any student would like to join Pre-Law Society, please email President, Laura Durham at lg2odurh@siena.edu or reach out to one of the e-board members (Vice President: Dana Wakeman, Secretary: Gabby Agostino, Treasurer: Taylor Green, Social Media: Kayla Spohr , Executive Assistant: Lohitha Nadella).

Washington Semester

Laura Durham

My name is Laura Durham and I am a Junior at Siena. In the Fall of 2017 I studied away at American University in Washington D.C. through the Washington Semester Program. The Washington Semester Program offers many concentrations of study including American Politics.

While enjoying all that D.C. has to offer, I was able to learn alongside some of the brightest minds of our generation and was under the guidance of Professor Richard Semiatin, who was able to guide us through city living and the hands on experiences found in American Politics in D.C. Some of the most memorable moments I had included, meeting Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the East conference room of the Supreme Court, meeting former Vice President Joe Biden in a crosswalk near Union Station, former chief speechwriter for the Clinton's; Lissa Muscatine, House Representative from Massachusetts 2nd Congressional District; Jim McGovern, President of America Votes; Greg Speed and many, many more!

D.C. has so much to offer, between Smithsonian museums, the National Zoo and meeting friends to last a lifetime, the WSP is something you would never regret doing.



2018-19 Capstone Descriptions

Inequality and Democracy (POSC 497)

Fall of 2018: Dr. Lombardo will offer “Inequality and Democracy”

We live at a time of increasing economic inequality. This is as true in the United States as it is elsewhere. In fact, according to Skocpol and Jacobs (2005), “disparities of income, wealth, and access to opportunity are growing more sharply in the United States than in many other nations, and gaps between races and ethnic groups persist” (p. 1). Similar disparities are being witnessed within European democracies, and are causing concern because excessive inequalities are incompatible with truly functioning democratic systems; they undermine their foundations, and may be partially responsible for the rise of such corrosive phenomena as racism, intolerance, and populism. Inequality is rising not only within democracies, but also between countries. Ngaire and Hurrell (2002) argue that “immense and increasing disparities of wealth, of power, and of security shape the world in which we live” (p. 1). Rising inequality does not just undermine the democratic process within countries, it also distorts the interaction among nations in the world arena, and it ultimately undermines the possibility of achieving just and peaceful solutions to world problems.

In the fall we will be exploring the issue of rising and persistence of inequality in the United States and elsewhere, and we will closely look at the impact of inequality on the democracy. A main requirement in this course will be a research project. This will focus on one particular aspect of inequality and its consequences for democracy. Once you have defined the focus and scope of your study, you will have the opportunity to pursue your research by selecting the most appropriate methodological approach from several possibilities (qualitative, quantitative, other). Your research project should allow you to gain an informed and critical view about this important topic, and to reflect on the state of democracy in today’s world.

Students will not be required to purchase a textbook for this class. All assigned readings will be either chapters from e-books, which are available through the Standish Library, or online journal articles.

Skocpol, Theda, and Lawrence R. Jacobs. 2005. *Inequality and American Democracy: What We Know and What We Need to Learn*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Woods, Ngaire, and Andrew Hurrell. 2002. *Inequality, Globalization, and World Politics*. Oxford: OUP Oxford, 2002.

International Human Rights Law (POSC 497)

Spring of 2019: Dr. Cutler will offer “International Human Rights Law”

This course will provide an intensive survey of international human rights law and practice. Our objective is to examine the increasingly complex body of substantive law and procedural mechanisms related to the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in international law and practice.

After considering the historical origins of human rights law we will examine the sources of international human rights. This will include treaties, customary international law, principles of law, and other sources applicable to the protection of human rights. In this regard such issues as the death penalty, women’s rights, torture, indefinite detention, war crimes, and the right to a fair trial will be examined and discussed. We will explore the role of international and regional organizations such as the United Nations and affiliated bodies in promotion of international human rights and we will be principally doing this through the emphasis placed on litigation arising before appropriate tribunals.

Appropriate casebook law materials will be assigned to each participant in the Capstone. At the end of the course each of our students will be able to:

1. Critically analyze the decisions adopted by international courts when investigating alleged human rights violations;
2. Identify the international law applicable to the protection of human rights and its enforcement mechanisms;
3. Evaluate the prospects for representing victims of alleged human rights violations before an appropriate international forum.

Upcoming Events

Our department prides itself on being able to bring in both relevant and interesting guest speakers and events to campus just about each and every semester. We believe that it is important for our students, who will be participating in a wide variety of disciplines and fields after their time at Siena, to be able to be exposed to a wide variety of professions either through guest speakers or interactive events on campus. The following are only some of the upcoming speakers and events slated to come to campus.

Careers in Policy Panel

Date: March 21st @ 6pm

Location: Snyder Hall G33

Description: Recent Siena Alumni will discuss their career paths in the fields of public policy and politics:

- Katherine Better '10, Political Director, Epiphany Productions
- Kathryn Hohman '09, Legislative Director, New York State Association of Counties
- Michael McLaughlin Jr '07, Policy Analyst, Albany County Executive's Office
- Matthew Curran, Policy and Program Development, Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

Dr. Miriam Pemberton

Date: March 21st @ 3pm

Location: Digital Scholarship Lab in the Library

Description: Miriam Pemberton is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies. She directs its Peace Economy Transitions Project which focuses on helping to build the foundations of a postwar economy at the federal, state and local levels.

She co-chairs the Budget Priorities Working Group, the principal information-sharing collaboration of U.S. NGOs working on reducing Pentagon spending. For questions, contact Dr. E-K.

Pizza and Politics: Dr. Jack Collens

Date: April 21st @ 12:35pm

Location: TBD

Description: Presenting his research on women in congressional primary elections

CFR Visit: Dr. Leonard Cutler

Date: TBA

Location: New York City

Description: 10-15 selected political science/pre-law students

Dr. Oross Visit

The Department of Political Science was pleased to host Dr. Daniel Oross as part of the Fulbright Visiting Scholars' Outreach Lecture Fund. Dr. Oross is a Research Fellow at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest and a Visiting Professor of Political Science at Hartwick College. He is currently working on a comparative research project examining youth political participation in the U.S. and nations in the E.U. Dr. Oross gave an insightful public lecture on Youth Political Participation and also gave guest lectures in Dr. Park's EU in 2018 class and Dr. Lombardo's Public Opinion class. In addition, he held a student focus group as part of his research project.



**YOUTH
PARTICIPATION
IN POLITICS**

Student Research

Three political science majors will represent Siena College at the 2018 National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Central Oklahoma, April 4-7, 2018. This competitive conference invites presentations from a range of academic disciplines to highlight exemplary research by undergraduate students. Funding for our students is generously provided by Siena College's Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA). These students continue our department's expanding tradition of excellence in undergraduate research.

Olivia Fleming, Class of 2019

Project Title: "Wall Your Body: Bulletproof Clothing and Anti-Rape Wear"
Post-Graduation Plans: Law School

Marlena Mareno, Class of 2018

Project Title: "Dress Codes in the Workplace and Perceptions of Appearance"
Post-Graduation Plans: Law School

Billy Mayer, Class of 2018

Project Title: "Is Fair Trade Fair For All? Assessing Needs for Indigenous Women in Guatemala"
Post-Graduation Plans: Teaching government to Hispanic populations in the U.S. or abroad, with an ultimate goal of working at a U.S. consulate or embassy

Siena College Award for Excellence

Shelby Davis

Junior Political Science major, Shelby Davis '19, was presented with the Siena College Award for Excellence at halftime of the Siena Men's Basketball game on February 2, 2018. Shelby was recognized for outstanding research in the field of national security and counterterrorism. She serves as a research assistant for Dr. Cutler and co-authored a paper assessing the Trump Administration's national security strategies toward critical war hotspots and the war on terror. Shelby spent the Fall 2018 semester in the Washington Semester Program at American University where she served as a intern at the Institute for the Study of War, researching the activities of ISIS in Russia and the former Soviet states.



CPI Update

The [Community Policy Institute](#) (CPI) is a student-led public policy research organization whose mission is to build policy capacity of non-profit organizations in the Capital Region. CPI provides policy research and analysis to non-profit partners and the community, enabling them to implement best practices and advocate for policies to address the challenges across a range of issues— including Education, Healthcare, Homelessness, Hunger, and Justice. Housed in the Center for Academic Community Engagement (ACE) and supported by the Political Science Department, the CPI is made up of a specialized group of undergraduate fellows who exhibit strong interests in social justice, the nonprofit sector, research, and policy. CPI Student Fellows disseminate current policy news, research important issues facing the community, and provide community partners with in-depth policy analysis. CPI’s policy research is published online in the [CPI Library](#).

With ten [student fellows](#), CPI is working on a variety of projects this semester, including two partnerships with community organizations. Jessica Havens `18 is leading a project examining food bank usage and benefits to college students with the Food Bank Association of New York State. Jillian Madocs `19 is leading a project to help evaluate the effects of water infrastructure spending on the environment with the Environmental Advocates of New York.

CPI is now recruiting student Fellows for Fall and Summer 2018 for on-campus internship opportunities. The program includes a funded Intensive Internship in the Summer, a POSC 485 Public Service Internship Credit, POSC 265 Public Policy, and other independent research and educational opportunities. Interested students should contact Dr. Daniel Lewis (dlewis@siena.edu), the CPI Faculty Fellow, or Courtney Tomeny (ctomeny@siena.edu), the CPI Postgraduate Coordinator.



Alumni Update

As seen below, Siena Political Science alumni have gone on to succeed in a wide range of exciting careers and fields. Of course, we always love to hear about your newest achievements and career updates, so please keep in touch!

- **Steve Lamy '73** is a Professor of International Relations and Director of the Task Force on Policy and Global Studies at the University of Southern California.
- After retiring from the NYS Legislative Bill Drafting Commission (77-2010) and the Albany Common Council (2002-2013), **Dominick Calsolaro '77** is now a columnist for The Alt, the Capital Region's alternative newsweekly.
- **Chris Robinson '80** is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of both the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion at Clarkson University.
- Currently the Director of the Tax Processing Division, NY State Department of Taxation and Finance, **Andrew Morris '85** was awarded the New York State Academy for Public Administration's Excellence in Public Service Award in 2017.
- **Gene Holmes '89** is the Assistant Principal at Kolbe Cathedral High School (Bridgeport, CT) and has recently begun teaching an American Government course affiliated with the University of Connecticut.
- **Elaine Rudzinski '93** was recently promoted to police sergeant in the East Greenbush Police Department, becoming the first woman to hold a command rank in the Department's history. She will be serving in a supervisory role in the detective bureau.
- **Lauren Talan '97** is a partner with FischerBroyles, practicing commercial law after a clerkship with the NJ Superior Court.
- After serving as the Research Director for Hillary for America (2016), **Tony Carrk '01** is now Research Director for Protect Our Care, an Affordable Care Act advocacy group in Washington, DC.
- **Kristy Pultorak '05** is the Director of Strategy Consulting and Research Practice for FTI Consulting, a global survey research firm based in Washington, DC.
- **Zachary Larsen '15** has been accepted into the U.S. Army's Funded Legal Education Program and will pursue degree at Syracuse University College of Law.
- As a Marketing Associate for Cross-Cultural Solutions, **Alicia Munian '15** has been working on clothing distribution at the Ritsona Refugee Camp in Greece. Alicia was involved in creating a boutique environment to protect the dignity of the residents, including refugees from Kurdistan and Syria.
- **Katie Smith '15** is pursuing an MA in International Security at the Korbel School at the University of Denver
- Currently an MPA student at American University, **Eric Brower '17** recently accepted a position as Survey Research Associate with Mathematica Policy Research in Washington, DC.
- **Jack Massaroni '17** is serving as a Public Policy Intern with Families Together, non-profit that does advocacy work for families of children with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges.
- **Aly Feye '17** is Project Research Assistant II for the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice at Policy Research Associates in Delmar, NY.

Upcoming Electives

POSC 265: Public Policy

Dr. Daniel C. Lewis

This course is a survey of the field of public policy, with a particular emphasis on public policy evaluation and analysis. It will cover both theoretical perspectives and practical skills relevant to careers in public policy, public administration, community development, and politics. The course material will not focus on any particular policy areas (e.g., education policy), but students will be immersed in a specific policy area of their choice through the course assignments. The course is required for all Community Policy Institute (CPI) Student Fellows.

POSC 308: Film and Politics

Dr. Laurie Naranch

Film has mass appeal and is readily accessible to most people. In this course we will treat films as texts subject to interpretation in terms of political theory. In particular, we look at films for what they say about the politics of the human in national and global situations. (ATTR: ARTS, FILM, GLST, ILST, MULT)

POSC 329: Special Topics in American Politics: Congressional Elections

Dr. Jack D. Collens

On Tuesday, November 6, 2018, voters across the country will elect their representatives in the House and voters in 33 states will elect one of their two U.S. senators. While these biennial elections are often less publicized than the quadrennial presidential election, they can have lasting impact on public policy, the political parties, and can even shape the race for the White House. This course examines congressional elections in detail, including such topics as the evolution of congressional elections over time, candidate emergence, campaign finance, the role of the president in these “downballot” races, and others. Prerequisite: POSC 100.

POSC 347: Latin American Politics

Dr. Vera Eccarius-Kelly

Voices from the Underground! What type of peace is emerging in Colombia? The failure of American counter-narcotic strategies...The purpose of this course is to explore political developments in Latin America to gain insights into the dilemmas confronting our neighbors in the Americas during the GW Bush, Obama, and Trump presidencies.

POSC 370: Civil Liberties I

Dr. Leonard Cutler

In Civil Liberties we will examine individual rights in the Bill of Rights that have evolved to protect us from encroachment by the Federal and state governments. Focus will be given to economic interests, the right to privacy, the death penalty, freedom of association, speech, and press. The Socratic case law approach will be provided as it is taught in law school.

POSC 489: Internship in Public Service and Policy Studies

Dr. Leonard Cutler

This experiential learning course is designed to expose students to public policy making in New York State and allow them to participate in public policy formulation and execution at the state, sub-state, and not-for-profit level. Students must devote 120-150 hours during the semester performing duties and responsibilities determined by their supervisor in consultation with the faculty director. A joint evaluation of the agency director and internship professor will be the determinant for the final student grade. Please see Dr. Cutler if you have interest.

Citizen Advocacy and Lobbying Course

This Spring, Dr. Lewis is teaching a new course, Citizen Advocacy & Lobbying. The course is a unique, applied learning experience, designed around the Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation (ENACT) model developed at Brandeis University. The course covers legislative process, lobbying theory and tactics, and grassroots advocacy, and requires students to apply these concepts to the real world by lobbying and advocating for the passage of a bill currently being considered in the New York State Legislature.

There are seven teams of students advocating for a wide range of bills, including a bill to add gender identity to nondiscrimination and hate crimes laws, a bill to create a Farm to School and School Garden Fund, and a bill to ensure equity of treatment for minority communities or economically distressed areas as it relates to environmental quality.

To prepare for their lobbying and advocacy efforts, the class toured the New York State Capitol and met with legislators to get advice. Assemblyman Phil Steck (D-Colonie) met with students on the floor of the Assembly and discussed how bills get on the legislative agenda. The class then met with Senator Neil Breslin (D-Albany), who offered student advice on the kinds of information that he looks for when meeting with lobbyists and constituents.

Both legislators gave students a great behind the scenes look at how they work to represent their constituents and pass legislation to serve the people of New York.

Faculty Updates

Dr. Jack Collens

Since the fall semester, Dr. Collens has published his chapter “Endorsements in the 2016 Invisible Primary: Still a Useful Indicator?” in the volume *Conventional Wisdom, Parties, and Broken Barriers in the 2016 Election* from Lexington Books (coauthored with Prof. Emily O. Wanless of Augustana University). In addition, he has continued work on a research agenda focused on congressional primary elections, including a paper to be presented at the 2018 Midwest Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Chicago, IL in April. He will present on that research during free period on Friday, April 20 (see Upcoming Events for more details). Along with Profs. Lewis and Cutler and Dr. Donald Levy of the Siena Research Institution, he is working on a study of voter attitudes towards the 2017 New York State Constitutional Convention referendum. Dr. Collens also continued work on developing a Communications program at Siena, with a particular emphasis on the Political Communication concentration for the proposed Communications major. That proposal is currently before the Siena College Board of Instruction and, if approved, will move to the NY State Department of Education for approval.



Dr. Leonard Cutler

Dr. Cutler presented a paper with his research assistant Shelby Davis, at the annual Northeastern Political Science Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in November, 2017. The paper is titled "The Emerging Trump Doctrine on Counterterrorism Policy: An Initial Assessment". He has also been notified by the President of the Association that both he and Shelby have been nominated, and are one of three finalists for the NPSA/Pi Sigma Alpha Best Conference Paper Award. Shelby was the only undergraduate paper presenter at the Conference.



Dr. Vera Eccarius-Kelly

Dr. Eccarius-Kelly had a chance to really focus on completing a long list of scholarly projects this winter. She attended MESA (Middle East Studies Association) in Washington, DC, in November to present a paper on "The Kurdistan Lobby in the US" but also participated in another panel that focused on "Syrian Kurds: Contesting Boundaries." As a result of her participation, she was invited to serve as a discussant at a conference on Kurds at Yale University, which will be held in April 2018. Two of Dr. E-K's book chapters appeared in print last fall ("The Kurdish Diaspora and Europe's Gatekeeping after Kobane," in *The New Turkey? Domestic and Regional Uncertainties*, ed. Ozgür Tüfekçi (Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing), 37-53 and "La diaspora Kurde en Europe," in *Les Kurdes Face Au Nouveau Moyen-Orient*, eds. Dorothee Schmid and François Zabbal (Paris, France: Institut Francais des Relations Internationales et Institut du Monde Arabe). Several additional book chapters, journal articles, and long essays will appear in print in the coming months. In addition, Dr. E-K will be co-editing a new book with her Kurdish Studies colleague, Dr. Mike Gunter. The entire book project will take shape this summer and focuses on *Trump's Foreign Policy and Kurdistan*. Dr. E-K continues to appear as a regular Thursday morning panelist for WAMC radio (NPR affiliate) "The Roundtable" and she frequently runs into people in random places that recognize her voice or just want to say hello. Occasionally she also receive a flood of emails related to something I discussed on the radio. Her most exciting project underway, however, is collaboration with senior political science and Spanish major Billy Mayer. The last week of February they will be heading to Guatemala for several pilot interviews and to meet some of the Mayan women who have provided them with feedback on the assessment survey. Billy will be presenting his findings at NCUR in April.



Dr. Daniel Lewis

In December 2017, Dr. Lewis published a study, "Evaluating Policy Representation with Dynamic MRP Estimates: Direct Democracy and Same-Sex Relationship Policies in the U.S." in *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* with his coauthor, Matthew L. Jacobsmeier (West Virginia University), showing how direct democracy can enhance policy representation in state government. In January, an essay entitled, "Tensions over Gay and Transgender Rights between Localities and States," coauthored with Jami K. Taylor (University of Toledo) and Donald P. Haider-Markel (University of Kansas), was published in a symposium on state-local policy conflicts in *PS: Political Science & Politics*. This essay drew from analyses conducted in Taylor, Lewis, and Haider-Markel's forthcoming book, *The Remarkable Rise of Transgender Rights*, which has been completed and is set to be published in October 2018 by the University of Michigan Press. Related to this project, Dr. Lewis is continuing his collaboration with Andrew Flores (Mills College), Donald Haider-Markel, Patrick Miller (Kansas University), Barry Tadlock (Ohio University), and Jami Taylor on a series of studies examining public opinion on transgender rights. The team has recently had a study accepted for inclusion in the forthcoming edited book *Marriage Equality in Advanced Industrialized Democracies* that examines "Sex, Gender, and Transgender: The Moderating Effect of Gender Identity." They also presented a new study on "Public Attitudes about Transgender Participation in Athletics: The Role of Gender" at the 2018 Annual Meetings of Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans. Dr. Lewis is also collaborating with Dr. Collens, Dr. Cutler, and Dr. Donald Levy (Siena Research Institute) on a study examining the attitudes of New Yorkers toward the 2017 Constitutional Convention Referendum. The study has been supported by the Howard J.



Samuels State and City Policy Center Grant awarded by Austin W. Marxe School of Public and International Affairs at Baruch College.

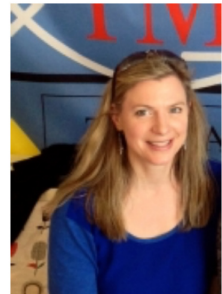
Dr. Salvatore Lombardo

For the past several months Dr. Lombardo has been working on revising the reading requirements for all of his classes. His goal has been to include in his syllabi only chapters from e-Books, which are available through the Standish Library, and online articles. He has achieved this goal for three of his classes so far: Contemporary U.S. Politics, Political Research I, and Public Opinion. For these courses he no longer requires a textbook. Dr. Lombardo also continues to work on his Tocqueville research. His special focus currently is Tocqueville's discussion of the tyranny of the majority. He presented a paper on this topic at the 2015 MPSA meeting and discusses this topic in his Contemporary U.S. Politics and Public Opinion courses. Dr. Lombardo is in the process of revising his conference paper.



Dr. Laurie Naranch

While on sabbatical this spring Dr. Naranch has been working on article publications on the themes of humanization, narration, and the dispossession of the self through debt as well as research for her book project on political theory and the aging body. She will attend academic conferences in both San Francisco and Rome. Dr. Naranch will also do some archival work in DC and NYC. In the fall she will teach "Film and Politics" and tune up the introduction to political theory with some new material.



Dr. Ausra Park

Dr. Park will be on sabbatical during academic year 2018-2019. During the leave, she will focus on a manuscript preparation on the role of the first generation of leaders during the Baltic States first decade of regained independence (1991-2001) and how top eight policymakers managed to reintegrate their countries into European and international institutions. Her research will be based on content analysis of nearly 800 speeches, personal interviews with top policymakers, and thousands of primary and secondary sources that she had gathered during my field trips to the Baltic States during the 2001-2004 period. In October of 2017, Dr. Park received a personal invitation from a colleague in Ireland to join the *Presidential Power* blog, requesting that she make regular contributions focused on Lithuania's president and presidential office. Her first posting appeared on January 11th. If interested, here's the link: <http://presidential-power.com/?author=41> Upon her return from sabbatical, Dr. Park plans to offer several new and "revived" elective classes for our majors and minors, such as *Human Trafficking; International Organizations; Politics of Genocides*, as well as travel courses to Asia (South Korea and, potentially, Japan), the Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan), and the Balkans (Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia).

